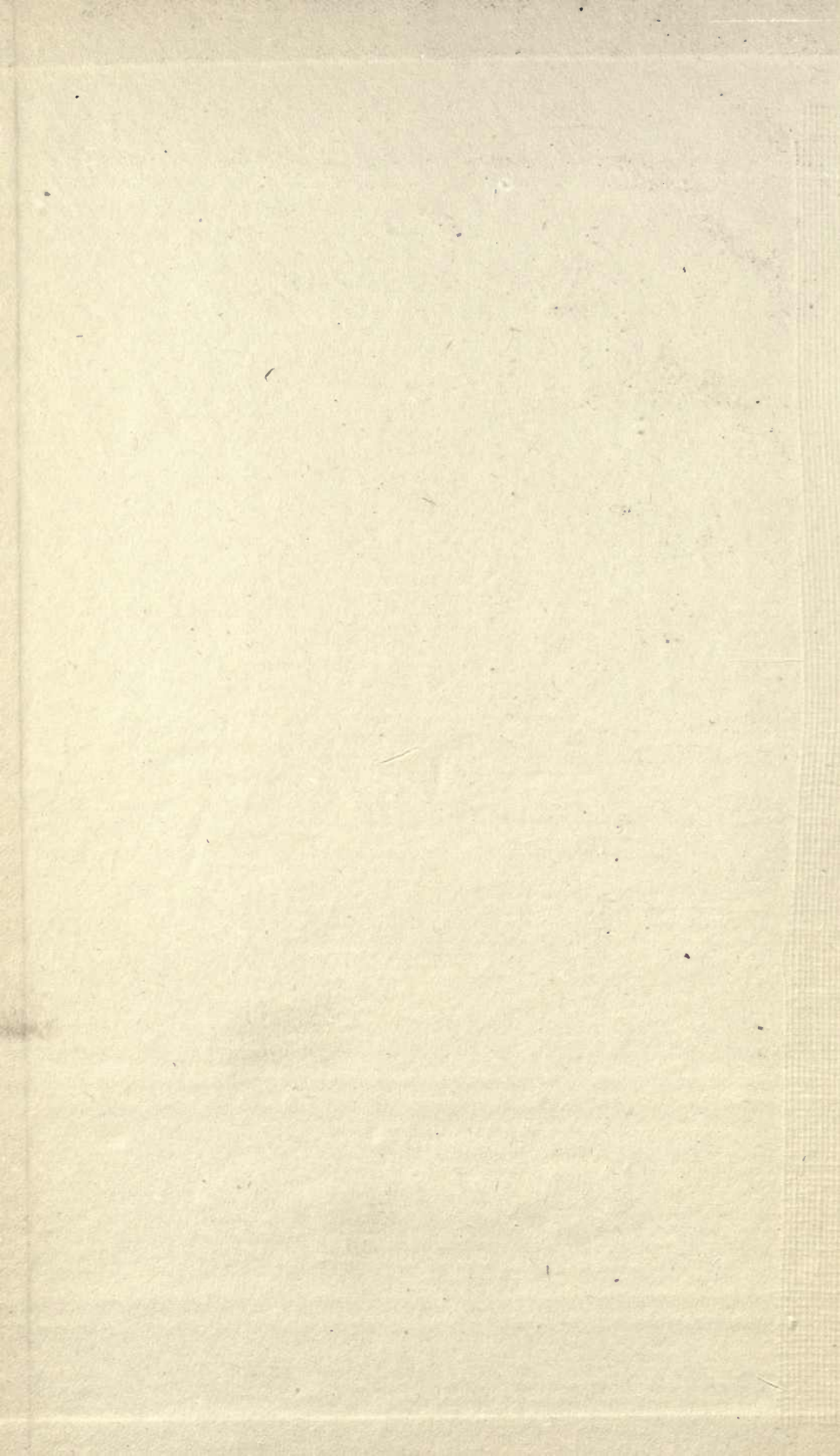


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THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS  
—  
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THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

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# THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 12, 1908.*

SIR: We have the honor to submit the Thirty-ninth Annual Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners. The cooperation and assistance which is by law provided for, on the part of this board, in the matter of the purchase and inspection of supplies for the Indian Service, has been rendered. The dates for the opening of bids for Indian supplies, and for the inspecting of samples and the awarding of contracts, as well as a memorandum of the assistance and cooperation given by the board, will be found somewhat in detail in Appendix A to this report, which is the special report of the purchasing committee, rendered to the chairman of the board at its annual meeting. In that appendix will also be found a tabular statement of the business done during the year at the different United States Indian warehouses, together with a list of the inspectors employed at each warehouse, the articles inspected, and the days of service rendered by each inspector, together with the number of years during which each of these inspectors has been employed in the Indian Service.

THE ONE OBJECT OF GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL, LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATION—TO MAKE INDIANS GOOD CITIZENS IN A CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION.

The entire Indian population of the United States is not greater than that of the District of Columbia. The total area of lands still reserved to the Indians is greater than the combined area of half a dozen of the States of the Union. The dangers and difficulties which surround attempts at legislation for the true welfare of the Indians are to no small degree connected still with the question of the land in Indian reservations, and the lands already allotted in severalty to Indians. The involved problems of ownership and administration of lands held in common, of great tracts of pasturage, of forest and timber lands, and of mines of minerals, oil and asphalt, still embarrass the administration of Indian affairs. The values involved in the resulting questions of the ultimate ownership and administration of Indian lands and mines can be estimated only in tens and hundreds of millions of dollars.

But in addition to this consideration of the vast areas and the enormous values involved in the land question, the problem of the Government in dealing wisely, righteously, and helpfully with Indians is still further embarrassed by the fact that the 300,000 (more or less) of nominal Indians on our territory speak scores of different languages and dialects, are of widely different tribal characteristics



and customs, and of different race stocks; and in their present condition are so scattered over great areas that in its dealings with them the Government has to touch them at more than a hundred different points through its agencies and subagencies. The Indians thus to be reached stand scattered all along the line of progress from absolute savagery up through the successive stages of barbarism and semi-civilization to the well educated, polished, and astute leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes. It is not to be wondered at that "the Indian problem," with its three centuries of history on a continent of which the Indians feel that they have been dispossessed by white intruders, and with the first century of our national life marked by so many deeds of injustice and unfairness toward Indians that it stands branded as a "century of dishonor;" it is not to be wondered at that "the Indian problem" is not yet fully solved, notwithstanding the conscientious and faithful efforts of the last thirty years in legislation for Indians and in the administration of Indian affairs.

For forty years, since President Grant inaugurated his "peace policy," the one aim professed by the Government of the United States in its dealings with Indians has been to fit the Indians for lives of intelligent and useful citizenship in the Christian civilization of our people. Stripped of all its accidental complications with the ownership of land and the administration of great tribal funds, the essential problem of the Government has always been, "How can we educate the Indians, old and young, for citizenship? How can we bring these native races into the self-governing and liberty-loving life of the American people?"

No other nation in the history of the world has ever set for itself precisely such a problem, in an effort to deal justly, kindly, and helpfully with conquered races of aborigines, while fitting them for and receiving them into full citizenship.

It is natural and almost inevitable that a board of intelligent citizens, charged with the duty of considering and promoting the welfare of the Indians while cooperating with the Government in plans of administration and legislation, should year after year in their annual reports lay especial stress upon the work of education. Education in its larger sense is the key and the only key to the solution of the Indian problem. By education, and only by education, can North American Indians, old and young, become intelligent American citizens. While the work of education is by no means limited to the school room and the school farm, it is true that in dealing with the North American Indians, as in all other efforts to uplift a race of men, "what you would have *come out in the life of the race or the nation, you must get into the schools for the children and the youth.*" Those who have stood face to face with the impregnable fortified pride and prejudice of men who have grown old in the tribal relations and isolated savagery of barbarous life know how exceedingly difficult is the work of changing and reforming the middle-aged and older Indians. In all efforts to make good citizens out of tribal Indians there is need to recognize the principle so strikingly uttered by Horace Mann in the middle of the last century, when, in emphasizing the need of universal education for the children of America, he declared, in eulogizing the work of the teacher of young children: "Better *one former* than ten reformers."



## SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION FOR INDIAN CHILDREN, STILL THE IMPORTANT QUESTION.

It is hardly twenty years since the United States Government began by legislation to recognize *its duty to furnish schools for all the children of its Indian "wards."* For the last twelve years, Congress has made liberal and increasing appropriations for schools for Indian children. In some details of boarding schools, and particularly in *the establishment of Indian boarding schools where they were not needed,* and often at a distance both from Indian homes and from that civilized home life, farm life, and town life with which it is most desirable that Indian children should become acquainted, Congress has at times been extravagant. Congress has sometimes yielded unwisely to the desires and influence of local politicians and tradespeople to have established among them, for selfish local interests, an Indian boarding school, with its buildings, its necessary purchases of supplies, its stimulus to trade and labor, and its throngs of visitors. Against *this tendency to multiply needless boarding schools, in undesirable places,* this board has steadily and repeatedly protested for the last ten years.

But it is *not* the fact that the Government even yet provides school facilities and educational opportunity for *all* the Indian children for whose training the Government is responsible. In 1877 there were 150 schools of all kinds for Indian children, with an average attendance of 3,598. In 1887 the number of schools was 227, and the average attendance 10,520. In 1897 the number of schools was 288, with an average attendance of 18,676. For the last six years the average attendance has been between 24,104 and 25,802. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, there were 173 boarding schools and 168 day schools for Indians (341 in all), with a total average attendance of 25,802. This average attendance is still very far below the proper average attendance for the children of a population as large as is the Indian population of the United States.

## NONRESERVATION BOARDING SCHOOLS—OPEN THEM TO BOTH WHITE AND INDIAN CHILDREN.

During the school year 1907 the Government supported 25 non-reservation schools, in which 9,485 pupils were enrolled with an average attendance of 8,496. About one-third of the average school attendance of all Indian children for the year is at these nonreservation boarding schools. These 25 nonreservation schools are distributed as follows: South Dakota, 4; California, 3; Arizona, 2; Colorado, 2; New Mexico, 2; Minnesota, 2; Wisconsin, 2; and one each in Pennsylvania, Oregon, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kansas, Nevada, Kentucky, and Michigan. While we do not think that these schools for Indian children should as yet be discontinued, we most cordially indorse the recommendation of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that inquiries be made and negotiations undertaken with a view to transferring these nonreservation schools for Indians, with their property, to the ownership and control of the several States in which they are located, upon conditions to be equitably fixed, with a proviso that Indians are to be admitted to all such schools free of tuition for a period of ninety-nine years. The Indian appropriation bill now

pending in Congress, as it was passed by the House on February 13, 1908, contained the following provision: "The Commissioner of Indian Affairs is hereby authorized, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to ascertain whether, and upon what terms, it may be possible to dispose of any of the nonreservation Indian schools which in his judgment are no longer of value to the Indian service, and to report the result of his investigation to the next session of the Congress." We trust that the substance of this provision may be retained in the bill when it becomes law, and that these inquiries will lead to the admission of white children with Indian children to these nonreservation schools upon terms equitably arranged between the United States Government and the several States where these schools are situated.

The plan suggested by this Board, and several years ago entered upon by Congress in making an appropriation to help support the tribal schools in Oklahoma, which were established for Indians only, upon condition that these Indian schools should be opened to white settlers whose children in Oklahoma had been entirely without school facilities, in the results already attained is a striking object-lesson as to the feasibility of using certain of the nonreservation Indian schools for the instruction of white and Indian children together. The appropriation of \$150,000 made by Congress in the Indian appropriation act of June 21, 1906 (34 Stat. L., 340), "for maintaining, strengthening, and enlarging the tribal schools and making provision for the attendance of children of parents of other than Indian blood therein," etc., has resulted in the establishment of over one thousand day schools to which Indian children and white children are admitted on equal terms. Until four years ago all white and negro children were excluded from tribal schools. The Territory of Oklahoma, with a population of nearly two millions, had absolutely no rural public-school system. But last year its rural district schools had an enrollment of about 13,500 Indian pupils, 45,000 white pupils, and 8,600 negro pupils; while nearly a thousand rural schoolhouses have been built by popular subscription. Nowhere else in the country has there been any approach made to a general mingling of Indian and white children in public schools, although the Government has for years published standing offers to pay tuition for the children of Indians in public schools wherever local authorities would receive Indian children.

We look with great hopefulness to the development of this plan for making more generally useful these nonreservation schools by opening them to white children and offering free tuition still for Indian children. The United States Government may thus be relieved from a large part of the expense for institutions which may well be doing a needed local work as industrial schools, technical schools, and agricultural schools for white children, while they continue to do a certain specific work for Indian children.

#### RESERVATION BOARDING SCHOOLS.

The United States Government maintained last year 91 boarding schools on Indian reservations, with an enrollment of 11,019 pupils, and an average attendance of 9,520. The enrolled attendance of Indian pupils for the year at the 25 nonreservation schools is almost



exactly the same (9,485 against 9,520) as the average attendance at the 91 reservation boarding schools. This Board is convinced that both these classes of schools have been of great use and that neither class should be wholly discontinued for years to come.

#### CARLISLE AND THE OUTING SYSTEM.

We have watched with great interest the intensely strong and helpful influence upon the whole Indian problem, of the work of the United States Industrial and Training School at Carlisle, Pa., especially while it was under the guidance and direction of that great pioneer in educational work for the Indians, Gen. Richard H. Pratt. By his system of "outing" for Indian pupils, several thousands of Indian boys and girls have been placed for months or years in the comfortable homes of well-to-do farmers of Pennsylvania and other States, under the supervision of the school by regular correspondence and by systematic visitation from a school officer, at the farms and homes where they were placed. We believe that this has done more than has been accomplished by the work of any other one Indian school to teach Indians, young and old, the meaning and the spirit of American home life and of Christian civilization.

We are unitedly of the opinion that the usefulness of such a school and of the "outing system" is attested not only by the influence of Indian boys and girls who return to the reservations, but even more by the effect of the school training at Carlisle in fitting Indians, young men and young women, to *take their place apart from tribal and reservation life in the self-supporting and self-respecting life of American citizens*. From the example and the influence of such self-supporting and independent Indian citizens the influence of civilization is most powerful upon the Indian families and tribes from which such students have made their way into the general life of the nation. It does not seem to us that the relative desirability of reservation or nonreservation schools is to be decided by saying that "it pivots on the question whether we are to carry civilization to the Indians or carry the Indians to civilization; and the former seems infinitely the wiser plan." Rather does it seem to us to be the fact that often a true and helpful impression of our home civilization *is not given, and can not be given*, to Indians on remote reservations by the teachers and employees of an Indian boarding school, even if we call such a school, with its institutional life, an object lesson to Indian men and women. There is a certain value in such an object lesson. But we are convinced, from years of observation, that many of the younger generation of Indian men and women, returned students, are leaders among their people to-day and have done the best possible work in "carrying civilization to the Indians," because they had first *learned the meaning of American civilization by living in it*. The spirit and meaning of American civilization was taught them by contact, and by their sharing in American home life, through "the outing system," as they never could have learned it at a boarding school on an Indian reservation. Again we call attention to the remarkably good showing made by former students of the Carlisle school and of the Hampton school, when statistics were compiled a few years since, after personal visits of inspection and careful correspondence, which endeavored to fix the present condition and estimate the present influence of each

former student of Carlisle and Hampton whether he had returned to the reservation or was living in civilization. The percentage of returned students who were "doing well" was remarkably high, and would have been high for white children from any school of similar grade anywhere else in the country.

#### DAY SCHOOLS.

Of day schools for Indians the Government last year maintained 163, with an enrollment of 5,130, and an average attendance of 3,670. The number of Indian day schools should be greatly increased, especially for the Navaho. Probably 6,000 Navaho children are without any schools. With every effort of the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs to make the work of the day schools more efficient, and to render stronger the influence of such schools upon the life of the parents and the other relatives of the children who attend them, we are most heartily in accord. We earnestly recommend the increase of the number of such schools; and we are gratified at the prospect that courses of elementary training in such of the simple methods of agriculture as are adapted to the local conditions where the schools are established, are to be introduced into an increasing number of these Indian day schools each year.

#### MISSION SCHOOLS.

The average attendance at all the mission schools for Indian children is almost exactly the same as the average attendance at all the day schools supported by the Government. There were 53 mission boarding schools and 5 mission day schools—58 mission schools in all—maintained for Indian children during the fiscal year 1907; and these schools, with an enrollment of 4,307, had an average attendance of 3,692, while the average attendance at nonmission day schools was 3,670.

In a nation so large a proportion of whose people are at least nominal adherents of Christianity, the amount of mission work among the Indians which is undertaken and supported by the Christians of all denominations in our country is pitifully small. When the leaders of many different denominations of Christians united some fifteen years ago in asking Congress to put an end to the system of contract schools by which the Government paid for the support and schooling of a certain number of Indian children at mission schools supported by the various denominations, it was repeatedly stated by those who advocated putting an end to "the contract-school system," that the churches of our country would work all the more freely and vigorously at mission work and missionary education for Indian children when every vestige of alleged "alliance between church and state" should have been swept away. Except in the case of one or two denominations, the results have not justified those predictions.

As a board, and as individuals, we believe that those principles of morality which are involved in Christian civilization should be taught in our government schools. But we further believe that there is nowhere for missionary effort a field whose especial claim upon the Christian people of the United States is more obligatory than is missionary work, through churches, preachers, and mission schools, among the North American Indians.



## MANY INTELLIGENT CANDIDATES FOR POSITIONS DECLINE APPOINTMENTS TO INDIAN WORK.

Nearly 3,000 of the employees of the Government in the Indian service are either directly engaged in educational work or are closely and intimately connected with that work at the various boarding and day schools maintained by the nation. Substantially all these teachers and employees are under the civil-service regulations. To those of us who have been members of this board long enough to remember the difficulties which used to be encountered in the effort to maintain good schools for Indian children when employees and teachers were under the spoils system, and appointments went "by favor" to members of Congress, through the "pull" of local politicians, it is gratifying to note the greatly increased efficiency of the schools which has resulted from the application of civil-service principles, with permanent tenure for efficient superintendents, teachers, and employees.

We ask especial attention to the significant fact, noted by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in his last annual report, that when there are vacancies in the Indian service, "*nearly one-half* of those who are selected and notified of appointment, *decline to enter the Indian service,*" either as teachers or employees. They decline because of the insufficient pay, or because of the undesirable conditions which surround work on an Indian reservation or at an Indian school. Men who are engaged in those branches of the Indian service where the work calls for some mechanical training and some knowledge of engineering work should have better pay. We are satisfied that the Government loses much money annually because it does not offer a scale of pay for this kind of work sufficiently high to secure thoroughly qualified mechanics and engineers. The amount of the loss by injury to its plants and waste of material during the year, because of the inefficient service of poorly qualified men, would much more than pay the better scale of salaries and wages needed to secure competent men.

## THOROUGH SCHOOLING, INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, AND WISE HELP TO SECURE EMPLOYMENT BY WHICH INDIANS SHALL SUPPORT THEMSELVES.

In our report for the year 1902 (pp. 11 to 13) we advocated the establishment of an "employment bureau," with employment agents to secure opportunities to work, and positions among white men, for such young Indians as were qualified by their school training to establish themselves at a distance from reservations and to live among their white fellow-citizens. We urged that "*our Indian schools be made more effective in getting Indian youth into the self-supporting life of civilization.*" "In all plans for the Indian school system, it seems to us that the ideal to be attained is *not the building up of a great permanent system of separate Indian schools, but the greatest possible efficiency in preparing the next generation of Indians to dispense entirely with separate government Indian schools, and to take their natural place in the system of public and private schools of the American people.*" Since 1902 this Board has annually declared in its reports its conviction that "boarding-school facilities for Indian children have reached the proper limit, except among the

Navaho." Among the Navaho a system of small day schools, based on industrial training connected with the most elementary school work, should be established, under the direction of a supervisor technically trained and by experience fitted to introduce and supervise such industrial work as the Navaho are capable of undertaking.

It is with the greatest gratification that we have observed the efforts made by the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs during the last two years to obtain employment for Indians on ranches, farms, and railroads, and in other occupations for which they are qualified. The work done under the direction of Mr. Charles G. Dagenett, who as commercial agent is in charge of the employment bureau, seems to us most valuable as a lesson in self-support to all Indians. The history of these two years promises a much readier adoption of the habit of self-supporting labor by mature Indians than has heretofore been hoped for or thought possible. For the work done in controlling the inflow of the Colorado River to the Salton Sea, some 1,100 Indians, Pimas and Papagos, were hired by the company in numbers varying from 200 to nearly 700, who received pay at the rate of \$1.92½ per day of ten hours for ordinary unskilled labor and \$2 or \$2.25 for Indians who showed any skill. Accompanied by their families, boarding themselves at a low cost, receiving transportation for both themselves and their families, and cared for by the company, in hospitals, in case of sickness, these Indians earned in gross, from August, 1906, until the end of May, 1907, about \$116,000. Work at from \$1.75 to \$2 per day on the Colorado River near Yuma employed from 50 to 125 Indians, while an average of 60 Indians were employed at equally good wages on the Roosevelt Dam, north of Phoenix, Ariz. More than 400 Indians were employed in thinning beets for the beet-sugar industry two years ago, and over 600 last year, with gross earnings of some \$28,000. Lumbering in the Northwest, and the sheep industry in the Southwest, have afforded employment for many Indians; and promising efforts are in progress looking toward the employment of educated girls, as assistants to the housekeepers of Indian day schools and in the manufacture of garments of various kinds to be sold to traders.

We wish to express our appreciation of all these intelligent efforts to lead the Indians away from lazy dependence upon government aid into the ranks of self-supporting and self-respecting American citizens. The Government, which has for so many years regarded the Indians as its "wards," is certainly under obligation to guide and assist these wards to find the road to self-support. Assistance rendered to young men and women who complete courses of study at Indian schools in finding employment among the whites, and intelligent guidance for the able-bodied Indian men who ought to be working, are methods of helping its wards to assume their proper place in the economic and social system of the United States which it is most gratifying to see the Indian Bureau systematically undertaking.

#### MORE FIELD MATRONS NEEDED.

A most interesting beginning in the work of securing paying labor for Indian women who are ready to undertake it has been made during the last year or two. In order to bring the Indians into our American system of civilized citizenship it is absolutely essential



that the life of the family be cultivated and strengthened as against tribal life. The family with one wife and mother as its home center, and with a home life for the family, the Indians of all tribes must learn to appreciate and to maintain before they can take and hold a place in true American life. All who are familiar with the work done among the Indians by the most intelligent and successful of the field matrons feel that hardly any line of effort for Indians is more promising. Her work prepares the way for and supplements the work of the school, the mission, and the employment agency. By making her way into Indian families and teaching the elementary principles of housekeeping and home making, and by cultivating friendly relations with Indian women and girls, and giving them needed advice, the field matron has already done, and is now doing, a work of the greatest importance. This board has recently received communications from representatives of some ten of the missionary societies which do work among the Indians, expressing the conviction of their missionaries and their teachers that an increase in the force of field matrons among the Indians is very desirable.

We earnestly urge upon Congress and upon the Secretary of the Interior an immediate and decided increase in the number of field matrons to be employed among the Indians. And we suggest the question whether it is not possible, with funds already at the disposal of the department, decidedly to increase the number of field matrons in the coming fiscal year.

FARMERS AND ASSISTANT FARMERS AT INDIAN AGENCIES SHOULD  
GIVE TO INDIANS MORE PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION AND ADVICE IN  
FARMING AND STOCK RAISING.

We believe that in the appointment of farmers and assistant farmers for the Indian service, practical instruction and guidance for Indians in farm work, farming methods, and in the raising and care of stock, was the definite intention. While such instruction and advice has been given by some farmers, complaints come from Indians at many agencies and reservations that assistant farmers do not live on the farms and in the residences provided for them; that farmers and assistant farmers are engaged in special work at the agency which does not at all help Indians to learn how to farm; and that in some cases assistant farmers and farmers have repeatedly refused definite requests from Indians to give advice or instruction in farm work. We respectfully suggest to the Indian Bureau the question whether methods can be devised which shall not only *increase the number* of farmers from whom Indians may learn needed lessons in agriculture and stock raising, but shall also *make much more efficient and helpful to Indians the services of farmers and assistant farmers who are already employed.*

EFFECTIVE PREVENTION OF LIQUOR TRAFFIC AMONG THE INDIANS.

The appropriation of \$25,000 (34 Stat. L., 328) for the suppression of the liquor traffic among the Indians we believe has been wisely used during the last year. That iniquitous and death-dealing traffic has received in Oklahoma such a check as has never before been administered to it. Fifteen thousand dollars of the appropriation was set apart by Congress to be used exclusively in the Indian Territory

and Oklahoma. Before Oklahoma became a State, the United States statutes, which are strict in their provisions against selling liquor to Indians, had been evaded in many ways—through “low-grade beer joints,” 353 of which were paying special taxes as “retail dealers in malt liquors;” through the shipping into the Territory, from breweries in other States, of low-grade beers under various false names; and by bringing in large quantities of whisky concealed in shipments of low-grade beers. The congested condition of business in the territorial courts led those who offended against the liquor laws to feel that the chance of their conviction, even if detected and brought to trial, was remote and slight, because the courts were overworked and the dockets overcrowded. The work of special officer William E. Johnson (fully described in the last annual report of Commissioner Leupp) has been remarkably successful in breaking up this liquor traffic. Not only from the account of his work given in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, but also from descriptions of its results which have come to this board through correspondence and interviews with residents of Oklahoma, we feel that the work done by Special Officer Johnson is altogether exceptional in its efficiency, and offers suggestions and an example which all others who are endeavoring to check the illegal traffic in liquor would do well to study. Through months he has continued a stern struggle with evildoers, in the course of which his own life has often been in danger. Two of his assistants, and one man who was enrolled in a “posse” for temporary help, have been killed in skirmishes with “boot-leggers” and “low-joint” men, while eleven violators of the liquor laws have met a like fate. Before the close of the summer of 1907 the efforts of Mr. Johnson had resulted in the closing up of most of the “liquor joints” in the Territory, in the destruction of 49 gambling houses, the collection of nearly \$15,000 in fines, the capture of gambling paraphernalia valued at \$12,000, and the seizing and selling under libel proceedings of “teams, wagons, boats, goods, and peltries” which were used by persons in transporting liquors into the Indian territory. The traffic came to be regarded as unprofitable. Mr. Johnson and his deputies had made nearly a thousand separate seizures and had destroyed, of intoxicating liquors, 269 gallons of alcohol, 247 gallons of Choctaw beer, 3,329 gallons of spiked cider, 3,286 bottles of intoxicating bitters, 4,637 pints of beer, 286 pints of wine, 25,949 pints of low-grade beer, 28,559 pints of whisky, and 175 pints of brandy. A reward of \$3,000 was offered by outlaws for Mr. Johnson’s assassination.

Other special officers in Arizona and New Mexico, Colorado, Washington, Nevada, and Idaho have helped to prevent the illegal sale of liquor to Indians. The special officer of the department at North Yakima, where 22 saloons were open to citizen Indians, so influenced public opinion that citizens and dealers entered into a voluntary agreement not to countenance the sale of liquor to Indians or to any one who was known to be a peddler to Indians. The decision of the Supreme Court in the *Heff* case had made it impossible, under a State government, to apply to allotted Indians who were citizens, United States statutes and regulations against selling liquor to Indians; and the promotion of a sound public opinion against such sales proved to be the only practicable way of stopping a traffic that was ruining the Indians and destroying good order in the community through the excesses and crimes of drunken Indian citizens.



It is hoped that Congress will make an even larger appropriation for the suppression of the liquor traffic with the Indians for the fiscal year 1909.

#### PROTECTION OF INDIANS AGAINST LIQUOR IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

The treaties between the United States and the Five Civilized Tribes, by which the great Indian reservations of the Indian Territory were created, had guaranteed to the Indians who signed those treaties, and to their descendants for all time, the prohibition of the manufacture or sale of intoxicants in all that Territory. As the prospect for statehood for the Indian Territory and Oklahoma became definite, this board interested itself in the earliest attempts made at Washington to put into the enabling act for the creation of the new State of Oklahoma the safeguard against liquor traffic which was required from the United States Government by good faith with the Indians to whom it had ceded the lands that make up so large a part of the territory of the new State. The enabling act for the admission of Oklahoma contained a strongly drawn clause prohibiting entirely the liquor traffic.

When statehood went into effect it appeared that by the provisions of the enabling act all the cases pending in the territorial courts were turned over to the state courts. The people in adopting statehood accepted the provisions of the enabling act. As to the liquor cases pending in Oklahoma since it became a State, two classes of such cases are to be recognized on the dockets of the state courts. *One class of cases arises from the offense of selling liquor.* The other class of cases arises from *introducing liquor into the State.* The selling of liquor *inside* the State is an offense against the State; and in an organized State, because the State controls its own police regulations, the selling of liquor can not be treated as an offense against the United States Government, but must be *regulated by state statutes.* On the other hand, cases which are now on the docket for *introducing liquor into the State of Oklahoma, can not be regarded as an offense against the State of Oklahoma,* because Congress and the General Government have control of interstate commerce. These two classes of cases from a legal standpoint rest each upon a different basis. But the reading of the constitution, and of the enabling act seemed to throw all these cases into the *State courts.* When Oklahoma became a State there were about 500 persons actually in jail and there were nearly 8,000 criminal cases of all classes on the dockets. Probably more than half these 8,000 cases were "liquor cases." Of about 500 men in jail probably something more than half were in jail for offenses against the laws prohibiting the traffic in liquor, although a large proportion of these men, and perhaps half the whole number in prison, were charged with murder. Most of the murder cases were cases of men who were also charged with the selling of whisky.

Shortly after the State was admitted many of the accused who were in jail began habeas corpus proceedings in the state courts. The state courts took the ground that they "had no jurisdiction." This left all these cases "in the air." Yet the marshal wisely held most of the prisoners. Some of the county attorneys began to dismiss the cases against men who were thus imprisoned, as there was a strong feeling against burdening the counties with the expense of these trials

that "were left over from territorial courts." Public prejudice in the minds of men who had been checked in their violation of the liquor laws by federal officers was taken advantage of to promote the effort to "wipe out all cases that had originated under the United States law, or even under the provisions of the enabling act." Early in this last winter, the Oklahoma legislature adopted joint resolutions authorizing the governor of the State to pardon all whisky and misdemeanor cases; and a premature announcement was made that the governor was to grant such a "general amnesty" as a part of the Christmas festivities. But, instead of that, Governor Haskell used his influence to secure from the legislature a strong prohibitory law which should enable the state authorities to carry out the prohibition provisions of the enabling act and the state constitution. Each house of the legislature, we understand, has now passed a stringent prohibitory law, and it is hoped that the two houses will agree upon some minor provisions in which the two bills now differ and that the governor will sign the prohibitory law.

We respectfully suggest to the Department of the Interior and to the Attorney-General of the United States the need of such a continued attention to these "left-over cases" for the violation of the United States laws under the territorial government, as is properly incumbent upon the General Government in carrying out in good faith the treaties made with the Five Civilized Tribes, which guaranteed the prohibition of the liquor traffic for all time in the territory in the State of Oklahoma, which was formerly included in the great Indian reservations.

The need of strict regulations and of the steady moral effect which would attend the following up of these old cases by the interest and authority of the Central Government is illustrated by the fact that in Pittsburg County, Okla. (as this board is informed on most trustworthy authority), there were *twenty murders between the 16th of November, 1907, and the 1st of February, 1908*, the "whisky people" being again in power in that county, and appearances indicating that the sheriff was either not competent or not disposed to deal effectively with the situation.

#### INDIAN TRIBAL SCHOOLS AND A RURAL SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR OKLAHOMA.

The continuous interest which we have taken for several years in the plan recommended by us to the Department of the Interior and to Congress several years ago, by which an annual appropriation was made by Congress to increase the efficiency and the number of Indian tribal schools in the Indian Territory upon condition that such schools should be opened to white children, is warranted by results which are gratifying and full of promise. The incorporated towns and cities which had grown up in the Indian Territory had, by territorial taxation, established a system of city public schools for white children. But throughout the rural districts of the Indian Territory there were no school facilities whatever for the children of white settlers. At no place in the territory of the United States, and at no time in the history of our country, have so large a number of children of school age been left entirely without schools of any kind. In looking forward to the condition of Indian children when the tribal schools should be given up by the destruction of Indian tribal government we had



been led to feel that the condition of the *white* children of school age in the rural districts of the Indian Territory would be *even more pitiful than that of Indian children*, unless the *Indian tribal schools should be made the germ of a system of rural common schools for both white and Indian children*. It was foreseen that in the parts of Oklahoma where the allotted land of Indian citizens was to remain for years untaxed, and where none but Indian citizens own lands, there was great danger that nothing like the American public-school system would be put into effect. There was danger that several more "school generations" of white children would pass through the school age entirely without schooling, as has been the case with tens of thousands of children for the last ten or fifteen years in the Indian Territory.

But under the wise administration of the Interior Department the appropriation of \$150,000 made by Congress to enlarge the Indian tribal schools was so used in "maintaining, strengthening, and enlarging these schools" that, supplemented by appropriations from the tribal funds of Indians and by surplus court fees, it was made effective for the establishment of over 1,000 day schools, to which, even before Oklahoma became a State, Indian "citizen" children, and "noncitizen" children (ordinary white people) were admitted on equal terms. Last year these schools enrolled 13,500 Indian children, 45,000 white children and 8,600 negro children. Nearly a thousand rural schoolhouses have been built by popular subscription.

It is earnestly and strongly recommended by this Board that Congress listen to the warning appeal of Superintendent Benedict, who has been for years in charge of these schools, when he says, in a late report, "Immediate statehood will not affect educational conditions in the rural portions of this territory, for the reason that nearly all of the farm lands are still under Indian protected title, and are not taxable. The State can not remove restrictions nor can it maintain rural schools except by local taxation. It will therefore be highly necessary that *Congress continue its annual appropriation in support of these country schools until the farm lands become subject to taxation*. As the country is rapidly filling up with white tenant farms, this appropriation should be greatly increased to meet the ever increasing demand for more schools."

CONGRESS SHOULD MAKE PROVISION (EITHER BY DIRECT APPROPRIATION OR, WHERE RIGHT AND POSSIBLE, FROM TRIBAL FUNDS) FOR THE SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS, COURTS, AND ROADS IN COUNTIES AND TOWNS WHERE MOST OF THE LAND CONSISTS OF UNTAXED INDIAN ALLOTMENTS WHICH BY LAW ARE NONTAXABLE.

To those who study the conditions under which allotted Indian citizens must be assimilated into the great body of American citizens it seems incredible that Congress can refuse, year after year, to make provision by law to insure, in parts of a State where nontaxable Indian lands make up the largest portion of a county or township, some source of revenue for the support of courts, schools, and highways which are elsewhere and regularly dependent upon local taxation of land. The legal provisions which insure to allotted Indians a protected title to their allotted land, for twenty-five years inalienable and nontaxable, cut off the natural revenue from a large part of many

counties and townships where Indian reservations have existed in the past. The inevitable result is a feeling, on the part of the white citizens of such counties and townships, that *Indians who do not pay any taxes toward the support of courts, schools, and highways have no right to expect opportunities in the public schools for their children, or protection in the state and county courts for their persons and their property, where such protection would involve expenditure of the money of the town or county, and that Indians should not expect improvements in highways which would especially benefit Indian land, since Indian lands are not taxed to keep up the highways!*

In our reports for the last few years we have repeatedly called attention to specific cases (as in Thurston County, Nebr., and in Yakima County, Wash.) where, not only from the complaints of Indians but from the open statement of state and county officers, it had become evident that nontaxation of Indian lands had resulted in the exclusion from the courts of all cases where criminal prosecutions were asked for the protection of Indians or their property, and were threatening to destroy the good feeling and friendly understanding between red and white citizens, which is eminently desirable wherever allotted Indians are to live under state, county, and township government.

With two United States Senators of Indian blood who are well aware of the facts in the case, and are actively interested for their people, and with growing intelligence about Indian affairs on the part of the public at large and of Members of Congress, it is to be hoped that *Congress will not allow another session to pass without making some legal provision for the supplying of this lack of equity in matters of local taxation where Indian allottees are settled in considerable numbers.* (See Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners, for 1903, pp. 9 to 13; Thirty-sixth Report, for 1904, pp. 8, 9, and 11, to 14; and Thirty-eighth Report, for 1906, pp. 6 and 7.)

**PAYMENT OF IMMENSE SUMS OF MONEY TO INDIANS IS REVIVING ALL KINDS OF EXORBITANT AND FRAUDULENT "CLAIMS" AGAINST TRIBAL FUNDS AND TRIBAL LANDS—INDIAN REGISTERS OF RELATIONSHIP ARE NEEDED.**

The proceeds from the sale of inherited Indian lands, up to June 30, 1907, amounted to \$5,680,820. The value of allotments thus inherited from deceased Indians is likely to increase year after year. For the last ten years and more this Board has urged upon the Department of the Interior, the Indian Bureau, and Congress the need of making and keeping at every agency and subagency a careful and exact register of Indian families, of marriages, births, and deaths, and family relationships. After strong pressure, regulations were issued by the Department of the Interior some seven years since requiring such registers to be made and kept at each agency. We regret to have to report again that from all the information we can obtain it appears that the regulations about such registers at many agencies are not carefully observed. It seems to us that this matter should be dealt with by the Department at once, and with the business-like efficiency which characterizes so many lines of the Department's work. The constantly increasing mass of litigation about



inherited lands, which was foreseen and foretold in our reports years ago, is rapidly piling up in the courts and in the records of the Indian Bureau; and *these agency registers*, which if properly kept would be most helpful in securing justice to all concerned, and in preventing needless litigation, are *not efficiently kept at many of the agencies*. Most respectfully, but most earnestly, we wish once more to urge upon the department the importance of such registration.

#### BREAK UP TRIBAL FUNDS—GET AT THE INDIVIDUAL.

It becomes more evident from year to year that the only way to teach an Indian how to use property is to intrust him with property of his own, guiding and helping him at first, but as rapidly as is practicable making him stand upon his own feet, and if need be encounter the losses which follow his own follies, and learn needed lessons from such losses. We rejoice in the beginning which has been made toward the breaking up of tribal funds by the law which makes it *possible* for an individual Indian who applies for the privilege of receiving his share of tribal funds and tribal property, when his application is approved by the Department, to receive such property in individual ownership. *This reform should go forward much more rapidly.* To this end, we believe that *more radical legislation is needed.* It seems to us, for many years students of Indian affairs, that Congress should pass a law fixing the date (and an early date) as soon as possible after the registration of families and individuals can be completed at the several Indian agencies, and that *on the date thus fixed a complete and final list should be made up of those Indians who on that date are entitled to a share in the tribal funds and in the other property of their tribe.* It would not necessarily follow that the individual shares, on that date assigned on the books of the United States Treasury and of the Interior Department to individual members of the tribe, should be at once paid to those individual Indians. But we believe that it should be provided by law that *after such a fixed date no other names should be added to the list of those who are entitled to share in the funds and the property of the tribe.* Babies born after that date should merely inherit from their parents the share of tribal funds, of land, or of other tribal property, to which they would be entitled by the laws of inheritance in the State or Territory where their real estate lies or where was the local residence of the Indian from whom such children should inherit. With such lists of the individuals entitled to share in the tribal funds, made out upon the books of the Treasury, as fast as individual Indians show reasonable capacity for managing their own affairs, these individual shares of money should be paid to them; and Indians should learn how to use money by "*using it or losing it*"—the only way of learning! The Government should not cultivate successive generations of "*incapables*;" but for minors, and for mature Indians who are evidently not capable of managing their own affairs, the United States, through the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior, should for a time continue to act as guardian of these Indian wards.

## NOT RIGHT OR WISE TO PUT A PREMIUM UPON THE LARGEST FAMILIES FROM THE MOST SHIFTLESS AND IRRESPONSIBLE FATHERS.

As matters now stand, the birth of an additional baby among unallotted Indians means a coming into his father's family of another undivided share of the tribal funds, and a new allotment of 160 acres, more or less, of Indian land whenever allotments are made. Instead of the sense of responsibility which attends the coming of a new little one into the home of a working man in civilized society (where, although new father love and mother love awaits the little one, there is upon the father the restraining and steadying sense of responsibility for filling another mouth, the responsibility of another child to be supported) among these Indians, who *need an added sense of responsibility*, the whole effect of the communal system of holding property, and of recognizing each new baby as a full shareholder with rights equal to those of any adult in the tribe, is to *put a premium upon the reckless increase of family from the most sordid motives*. We believe that it is time for the Indians of our country to be brought under the general inheritance laws of the States and Territories as rapidly as possible; and the *fixing of a definite date after which newborn Indian babies shall not be equal owners in tribal funds and tribal land* is the first step toward this desirable end.

The same wise policy which led Congress to decide nearly forty years ago that it would make no more treaties with Indian tribes as nations; the same wise determination to break up the tribal lands and to get at individuals, which led to the allotment of lands in severalty instead of the holding of millions of acres by a loose common tenure for the whole tribe; the same clear purpose to break through the hard-caked mass of the tribe, and to *reach the conscience and the will of the individual*, which has led to the wisest efforts for forcing lazy and unwilling Indians to labor for self-support, by striking the able-bodied off the ration roll; this same determination to do away with the communism of the tribe and to make of Indians fully individualized, self-supporting and self-respecting citizens should lead *Congress now to legislation which should at once break up tribal funds into individual holdings on the books of the Treasury, and after a fixed date make it impossible for Indian children to be "born into tribal citizenship and tribal ownership of lands or funds" anywhere on the territory of the United States.*

## GREAT TRIBAL FUNDS CONSTANTLY PROVOKE CLAIM AGENTS AND CLAIM LAWYERS TO FRAUDULENT CLAIMS AND TO DEEDS OF PLUNDER.

We wish respectfully to recommend to the Secretary of the Interior and to Congress an investigation which shall set forth in figures the facts concerning claims against tribal funds for the last twenty-five years, with a tabulated statement of the fees claimed by attorneys and the fees paid to attorneys for the conduct of such cases. While we wish carefully to refrain from general and indefinite criticism of any court or courts of the United States, it seems to us, from facts and figures in our possession, that the *scale of compensation* which has been *allowed to and taken by claim lawyers and attorneys* has been *in many cases out of all proportion to service rendered the Indians* and to the professional reputation and ability of many of the lawyers



who have received such fees. So long as these great tribal funds are held in common and belong to a mass of people who are not thoroughly educated or intelligent as to their own property rights, the presentation and exploitation of all kinds of doubtful "claims" against tribal funds will continue, and utterly exorbitant fees will be contracted for in advance by attorneys and taken by them out of the money which should go to establishing and furnishing homes for Indian families. Specific instances of this kind of abuse could easily be mentioned, and we believe ought to be known to and criticized by the public.

CAN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RETAIN FROM THE MINING INTERESTS OF COAL, ASPHALT, MINERALS, AND OIL IN INDIAN RESERVATIONS A PORTION OF THE INCOME, TO BE APPLIED TO THOSE USES IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF TAXES (ON LAND HELD BY INDIANS BY A PROTECTED TITLE AND NONTAXABLE) WOULD BE APPLIED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IF INDIAN ALLOTMENTS WERE NOT FOR A TERM OF YEARS NONTAXABLE?

While Congress is considering measures of legislation looking to the retaining by the General Government of the mining interests in Indian lands, should not consideration be given to plans which propose the setting apart of a portion of the income from the leasing of such mining land to support schools, roads, and courts in counties and townships where there is much nontaxable Indian land? The amount of money which is already involved in mineral leases of Indian lands is very considerable. Up to the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, 14,584 mineral leases, nearly all covering oil and gas, had been filed with the Union Agency of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma, and 9,575 of these leases had been forwarded to Washington for further consideration; while 4,886 leases, covering 663,000 acres, had been approved. More than 21,000,000 barrels of oil was produced in the Indian Territory during the last fiscal year, and about 18,000,000 barrels was stored in tanks in the Creek and Cherokee nations on the 30th of June, 1907. Indian allotments in the productive oil fields often net to the owners, in royalties, \$300 or \$400 per month; several Indian allottees receive over \$2,000 per month for the lease of an allotment on which oil is found, and one receives more than \$3,000 per month. Beside these royalties, a large bonus is frequently offered for a lease in the developed oil fields, 20 acres in the Glenn pool having brought to its owner a bonus of \$43,000, while a 160-acre lease, also in the Glenn pool, brought a bonus of \$25,000 in addition to a royalty of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of all the oil. We mention these instances to illustrate the immense values in these natural deposits which are passing through the hands of the Government and into the hands of individual Indian owners. From these immense values in "natural gifts from the soil" ought not provision to be made for the equivalent of taxation, that schools and courts may be supported and good roads developed in parts of Oklahoma and of other States and Territories which have been Indian reservations, where part of the value of mineral products which are freely given to Indians it would seem might with propriety be used as an offset for the especial pecuniary advantage of exemption from local taxation from twenty to twenty-five years which

Indian allottees enjoy? How is it possible to maintain friendly relations between Indian citizens and white citizens, with equal rights in courts, schools, and highways for Indian citizens, where it is felt that the *whites have to bear all the burdens of local taxation, while they are excluded from participation in any of the advantages that come from the wealth in minerals, oil, gas, and asphalt, while the proceeds of these "natural advantages" go exclusively to Indians whose lands are not taxed?*

#### PROTECTION OF FULL-BLOOD INDIANS IN THEIR RIGHT TO THEIR LANDS.

We have observed with interest during the last year the effect of the circular letter issued to all agents, teachers, instructors, officers, and other persons in government service among the Five Civilized Tribes, urging them to cooperate heartily in the effort to *protect full-blood Indians from loss of their homes and lands in Oklahoma*; and of the circular issued by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on March 4, 1907 (25,000 copies of which were distributed, one copy going to "every full-blood Indian citizen of the Five Civilized Tribes"), in which these Indians were informed in English, and on the reverse side in the languages of the Five Tribes, that the Government was attempting to protect them in their land rights, and that they were advised not to sign any paper of any kind when it was presented to them by any person other than a government officer, without first consulting the nearest representative of the Government in whom they had confidence. The circular quotes from the act of April 26, 1906, the clause "every deed executed before, or for the making of which a contract or agreement was entered into before, removal of restrictions \* \* \* is hereby declared void." All the legal restrictions now left upon the land of full-blood Indians will be needed to protect the homestead for the full bloods and their children in Oklahoma, where the pressure to obtain Indian lands is more intense than any can fully understand who have not studied the situation on the ground. And the rights of *minors* should be guarded with especial care.

#### STATE COURTS HAVE NOT JURISDICTION OVER LANDS ALLOTTED TO INDIANS.

The case of William McKay, substituted for Mary Kalyton et al., plaintiff in error, *versus* Agnes Kalyton, by Louise Kalyton, her guardian *ad litem*, begun in the circuit court of Umatilla County, Oreg., involving an allotment made under the Umatilla act (Stat. L., 340), was decided by the Supreme Court of the United States on February 25, 1907, the Supreme Court averring that the *state courts are without jurisdiction over lands allotted to Indians*. The decision has clearly sustained the position of Congress that the United States continue, as trustee, to have an active interest in the proper disposition of allotted Indian lands, and that consequently, of necessity, the United States must become a party to controversies concerning allotments. (See presentation of case, pp. 69 and 70, report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1907.)



## CARE OF FORESTS AND TIMBER LANDS ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

We wish heartily to approve the suggestion of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that Congress enact legislation applicable to all Indian reservations, whether allotted or unallotted, authorizing the sale of timber under such regulations and restrictions as may be imposed by the department; and the further suggestion by the Commissioner that the disposal of the timber would be most wisely made by methods like those followed by the Forest Service in selling timber on forest reserves. It seems to us that while the people of the United States are awakening to the need of preserving our forests it would be eminently wise to place all the timber land and forests on Indian reservations under the charge of the Forest Service of the Government, so that these timber lands and forests may be managed most wisely, not merely for the welfare of the Indians, but also for that conservation of natural resources in the matter of the growth of forests and woodland which is now seen to be so pressingly important. Even from the very limited reservations of the State of New York complaints have come to us recently from Indians who are trying to preserve timber and woodland rights, but whose forests are destroyed by the reckless cutting of timber on lands still held in common. What is a matter of some importance in the little reservations in New York State is a *matter of extreme importance* in the larger Indian reservations of the Northwest. We believe that this matter should receive immediate and careful attention.

## PLANS FOR THE WATER SUPPLY FOR THE PIMA INDIANS.

The Indian appropriation act of a year ago provides that the Secretary of the Interior "may, in his discretion, use such part of the \$300,000 heretofore appropriated for an irrigation system for the Pima Indians in the payment of such Indians' proportionate part of the construction of the Salt River project; and such funds may be transferred to the reclamation fund, to be expended by that service in accordance with its rules and regulations; the Indians to receive a credit upon the reclamation charge assessed against their lands under the Salt River project for the amount so transferred." In a special communication from the Indian Bureau to this Board, under date of March 1, 1906 (see p. 13 of Thirty-eighth Annual Report of Board of Indian Commissioners for 1906), it was mentioned as a conclusion officially reached "that the most economical and promising plan was for the Indian Office to subscribe for a 10,000-acre water right on behalf of the Indians, putting them into the position of members of the Water Users' Association, organized for utilizing the water made available by the Roosevelt Dam." The communication added: "It is expected by the Reclamation Service that, unless unforeseen obstacles intervene, the power will be available, and the power plant and transmission line on the reservation operative, and water supplied to the Indians for irrigation within the next twelve months. It is calculated that each farmer will have a farm of about 10 acres of irrigated land, possibly a little more than 10 acres." In

his last annual report the Commissioner of Indian Affairs calls attention to the agreement signed by the president and secretary of the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association to include the lands of the Pima Indians within the area to be irrigated under the Salt River project, executed by the department on June 3, 1907; and states that \$100,000 has been transferred to the reclamation fund out of the amount appropriated for the Pima irrigation system. This agreement in substance provides for the doing by the Reclamation Service of the work necessary to utilize the water power of the Salt River for the generation of electric power for the purpose of pumping water for irrigation for the Pimas; and that 1,000 horsepower of the electric power thus to be developed shall be transmitted, by proper and convenient means of transmission forming constituent parts of the Salt River project, to some convenient point on the south line of township 2 S., R. S. E. G. and S. R. B. and M. line, being on the north boundary line of the Pima Indian Reservation; and that the Government will otherwise, and by means distinct and separate from the works constituting the Salt River project, distribute and use said power independently of and without either interference by or control or direction of said association, and without any responsibility or care of the association therefor. The Government further agrees that in addition to this \$100,000, the Government shall pay such further sum as together with said \$100,000 in the aggregate shall equal that proportion of the whole cost which 10,000 bears to the whole number of shares of the capital stock of said association plus 10,000. That is, the 10,000 acres of Pima irrigated lands on the Indian reservations shall bear, and the Government shall pay, such proportion of the cost of irrigation works above specified, as it is provided in the articles of incorporation of said association and in said contract between the Government and said association shall be borne by the lands of the shareholders of the said association, equally, acre for acre. The Indian lands are placed, in respect to the burden for the payment of the cost of repairs, renewals, betterments, maintenance, and operation, upon the same basis of computation as the lands of the members of the Water Users' Association. While it is explicitly stated that the Indians can not become members of the said association until after they shall have become owners severally in fee simple of their lands, and be enabled to contract concerning them as fully and freely, and to the same effect, as can the members of said association; the extent of lands including said 10,000 acres, thereafter shall be deemed a part of the reservoir district, and said Indians may then subscribe for shares of the capital stock of said association and become members and shareholders on equal terms with the whites. The effect of this agreement, when it shall be carried out by the Reclamation Service, will be to deliver 100,000 horsepower of electricity at the northern limit of the Pima Reservation, which the Government may and should then at once use in pumping water for the Pima Indian Reservation.

Until provision is made for the pumping of water from the wells it is to be noted that *the water supply is still, as it has been for years, out of reach of the Pima Indians.* The heavy rainfall of the last two or three years can not be expected in these next years, and it is only



this heavy rainfall that has saved the Pima Indians from such failure of crops as would have reduced them almost to starvation, as it did for several years before 1905.

Recalling the persistently repeated delays and postponement of any and all plans suggested for providing water for the Pimas, we respectfully urge upon the department the need of proceeding with the boring of wells for irrigation purposes and the preparation of ditches, that, when the electric power is supplied, there may be no long delay in getting a supply of water for these much-abused and long-suffering Indians. Long before the whites occupied this country and diverted the waters of the Gila River these Pima Indians were agriculturists who had used the waters of the Gila River for hundreds of years. They were the most expert and successful American pioneers in agriculture by irrigation. They should not be left to half starvation for lack of water, through another succession of ordinarily dry seasons in the Southwest. Again we urge upon the department *definite action for providing wells for the Pima Indians.*

#### ITEMS OF IMPROVED METHOD IN INDIAN ADMINISTRATION.

Among many items which might be mentioned as gratifying evidence of the intelligent administration of Indian affairs under the present Commissioner, we note such as these: "Through wise help in securing outside employment for the Pine Ridge Sioux, their agent, who had dropped 800 of the Sioux from the ration roll permanently, because they were sufficiently advanced to care for themselves, in the spring of 1907 took off the ration roll the names of 1,600 more Pine Ridge Sioux Indians who were able-bodied and required them to support themselves by work on the railroads, ranches, etc."

The work of Mr. Henry J. Phillips, transferred from the superintendency of the Indian school at Chamberlain, S. Dak., to act as commercial agent for the Sioux Indians on the various reservations in teaching them how to manage their own affairs, market their crops, and transact their business, seems to us to have been a very useful work, and one that might well be followed up by similar appointments, provided capable men could be secured for other communities of unallotted and allotted Indians.

#### THUMB-PRINT SIGNATURES BY INDIANS.

To emphasize the sense of personal and individual responsibility on the part of the Indians, and because the mere making, with a cross, of "his mark" by an illiterate Indian who signed agreements and contracts, did not seem to the Indians definite, personal, and binding, (for all crosses look alike, and anyone who could write, and not the Indian signer himself, wrote what he said was the Indian's name, although the Indian himself could not read it), the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, upon the suggestion of one of the most experienced of the inspectors, has introduced with uneducated Indians the use of the "thumb-print signature," in place of "making his mark." The interesting biological fact that the corrugated lines on the under side of each man's thumb are distinct and characteristic in their order,

curvature, and number (a fact known, and made use of in "thumb-print signatures" for seven or eight hundred years in India, and there connected with the name of Sir William Henry in English administration), has been taken advantage of in Indian affairs, by requiring the Indian who can not write, instead of making his mark, to attach his thumb-print signature to each instrument or agreement which he enters into and executes. Indians have been quick to see and to respond to this new element of personal responsibility in their signatures; and the effect of this simple change is interesting and deserving of notice, and commends the custom for general adoption in all cases where "making the mark" for an Indian has heretofore taken the place of his proper signature.

Practical and much-needed changes have been made in the dates on which payments of annuities and per capita payments of money are made to Indians. A change from inconvenient dates to dates manifestly convenient and helpful for Indians would seem so natural as not to call for comment, had not experience proved that in ordinary bureau and administrative management, no matter how inconvenient a custom may be for Indians, years of agitation and protest are usually required to bring about a change. *The inertia of bureau custom and clerical routine is a terrible force to reckon with, when any reform in Indian administration is desirable.* And for this reason the initiative which has been taken, in these changes made by the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs, calls for especial commendation.

Equally helpful in simplifying the transaction of business will be found, we trust, the newly adopted plan of having agents, and the superintendents who act as agents, make payments to contractors at the agency for goods delivered upon contract accounts, and at the time of delivery. Weeks of needless delay, and sometimes of great embarrassment to honest contractors, are thus avoided.

The opening of all bids for Indian supplies at Washington we commented upon in our last report as manifestly a decided improvement. We respectfully renew in this connection our suggestion that it would be wise if *all samples were submitted and all contracts awarded at one central office here in Washington.* Goods could then be shipped for delivery to one or two warehouses in the Middle West or Far West. More than two Indian warehouses are not needed for the welfare of the service.

#### NUMBER OF PATENTS ISSUED AND ALLOTMENTS APPROVED.

During the year ending June 30, 1907, 3,363 patents were issued and delivered to Indians. During the same year 10,643 allotments were approved, for which patents had not at the end of the fiscal year been issued.

Under the action of the Burke law, by which authority was conferred on the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents in fee simple to allottees whenever he was satisfied that they were competent to care for their own patents, 753 (out of 881 applications) had been acted upon favorably on the 30th of June, 1907. Four hundred and forty-seven patents had been issued, and in the case of the others favorably acted upon additional time was required by the General Land Office for the preparation of the patents.



## THE HOMELESS INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA.

From the appropriation of "\$100,000 for the purchase of lands, water rights, etc., for the Indians of California" (act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. L., 333), during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, \$30,425 was expended for Indians at San Manuel, at Las Coyotes, at Camupo, at Pachanga, at Coachella or Cabazon, at St. Augustin, at Morongo, and at Cahuilla in securing lands and water for these Indians of southern California, while ten tracts in northern California had been purchased (or the purchase formally authorized), at an aggregate cost of \$32,033. The efficient agent, Mr. Kelsey, former secretary of the Northern California Indian Association, has been retained in this work for the current fiscal year. In addition to about \$30,000 of the unexpended appropriation still in hand on the 1st of July, 1907, at least \$50,000 more is needed to place the Indians of California in a position where they will have land and water to enable them to become self-supporting. As reported by the Senate committee, the current Indian appropriation bill now pending contains an item of \$50,000 for this purpose; and we most earnestly recommend that this appropriation be made and that the work of settling California Indians upon land and with water rights which will enable them to have little farms of their own while they try to support themselves by their own work be carried steadily forward.

## SUGGESTION FOR MORE HELPFUL ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE BURKE LAW.

Up to the 1st of September, 1907, of 881 applications by Indians to the Secretary of the Interior for patents in fee simple (which the Secretary by the act of May 8, 1906, 34 Stat. L., 182, has authority to issue "whenever he is satisfied that such Indians are competent to care for their own affairs") 753 applications had been acted upon favorably and 477 patents had been issued. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs reports to the Secretary of the Interior that in the effort to carry out the provisions of the Burke act "the chief difficulty is to ascertain the capacity of applicants." "Each agent or superintendent," says Commissioner Leupp, "has his individual point of view, which, no matter how sincerely he may strive to carry out the spirit of the law, colors his reports and recommendations." "A good many allottees have appealed from the *pro forma* decisions of the office, which has then ordered a special investigation, with results usually favorable to the appellants."

This board has felt that the change of policy brought about by the Burke bill (by which the presumption is thrown *against* citizenship for an allotted Indian, and citizenship is granted him only when he can prove his especial fitness for it) was not wise. We are still of the belief that the *conferring of citizenship with the allotment*, but under a title protected for twenty-five years, *would have led more speedily, directly, and helpfully to the inclusion in the great body of American citizens, under state law and county and township administration, of the whole body of North American Indians.* But having entire faith in the high purpose of both the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior so to administer the provisions of the Burke bill as to bring about citizenship for capable Indians as rapidly as possible we make the following suggestions with that end in view:



Our observation of Indian agents, and our correspondence and acquaintance with residents on former Indian reservations, both whites and Indians, has shown us that it is very commonly the fact that *a considerable number of the most manly, capable, and self-respecting members of Indian tribes are not favorites with agents* or even with school superintendents. The very fact that intelligent Indians, who know that they are capable of managing their own affairs, live in a spirit of continuous but suppressed resentment at the laws and the bureau regulations which prevent them from managing their own affairs, makes it inevitable that there should be a tendency among many of the best Indians to "do without" the agent and the bureau. We frequently receive complaints from well-educated and capable Indians, who have not yet been allotted lands in severalty, that if they were allowed to sell their cattle and their crops without interference from the agent, they could support themselves and their families comfortably; but that the agent does not let them make bargains without his interference and sanction; and the tendency on the part of the agent (often with the best intention) to favor particular dealers who buy from the Indians, together with the necessity imposed upon Indians of "getting permission" from the agent before they can sell, interferes with their sense of personal responsibility and manly independence of action, and also interferes with a good market for their beef and other produce. Such self-relying Indians are not likely to be always in favor with the employees of the Indian Bureau, even when those employees are men of honor and of excellent purpose. The interests of bureaucracy, and the tendency (everywhere manifest in the administration of a bureau through a term of years) to *emphasize bureau methods and to exalt the authority of bureau appointees*, makes it inevitable that there should be differences of opinion between the most progressive and independent Indians and the agent or superintendent who has to enforce agency and bureau regulations, even when he does it with the best intention, for protecting the welfare of the Indians.

It thus happens that many *Indians who ought to be among the first to receive a patent to their allotments and authority to manage their own affairs*, by reason of the fact so exactly stated by Commissioner Leupp, that "each agent or superintendent has his individual point of view, which colors his reports and recommendations," are *not recommended for patents and do not receive them*. We suggest the question (already raised by requests from the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands, and from other Indians) whether it might not be *helpful to the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in determining what Indians of a given tribe are fit to receive patents to their allotments and to manage their own affairs*, to ask the councils of tribes, or parts of tribes, at an agency, or a representative gathering of the most intelligent Indians called by the agent for advice, to submit from time to time either through the agent or directly to the commissioner, lists of the names of the allotted Indians on a given reservation who, in the opinion of their most intelligent Indian neighbors, are competent to manage their own affairs. We believe that such lists (which the officers of the Government would of course regard only as suggestions and not at all as an attempt at dictation by the Indians) would be helpful in the difficult task which the Burke bill devolves upon the commissioner and the Secretary, of discriminating among Indians and selecting those who are best fitted to manage their own affairs.



## MEETINGS OF THE UNITED STATES BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS.

At the opening of bids, inspection of samples, and award of contracts for Indian supplies at Washington, New York, St. Louis, and Chicago, one or more members of the Board have been present.

The Board held its usual autumn meeting at Lake Mohonk in October, 1907. Commissioner Albert K. Smiley entertained the members of the conference and a large gathering of friends of the Indian from all parts of the United States during a three days' conference upon the interests of the Indians and other dependent races; and Commissioner Draper of this Board presided at the sessions of that Mohonk conference in October.

The board held its annual meeting from the 26th to the 28th of February, 1908, in its offices in the Corcoran Building, Washington, D. C. Two sessions were held daily on Wednesday and Thursday, with a single session from 9.30 until 1 o'clock on Friday, February 28.

The resignation from membership in this board of Prof. Maurice F. Egan, of Washington, appointed United States Minister to Denmark, had made a vacancy in the Board since the last annual meeting, and Hon. Michael E. Bannin, of New York City, commissioned by the President of the United States on June 26, 1907, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Minister Egan, was introduced, and entered upon the discharge of his duties at this meeting.

On the afternoon of February 26 and the morning of the 27th representatives of nearly all the Christian missionary societies which do work among the Indians met with the members of the Board of Indian Commissioners to report upon the school and mission work done among the Indians, and to confer with the Board as to methods by which such work could be made more efficient and helpful in supplementing the work done by the United States Government for the Indians. Hon. Francis E. Leupp, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was by invitation present at this conference between the representatives of the missionary societies and the Board of Indian Commissioners.

It is hoped that this conference between the head of the Indian Bureau, these representatives of missionary societies, and the Board of Indian Commissioners will prove helpful to the Indian service.

The annual report of this board for the calendar year 1907, herewith submitted, was considered, acted upon, and approved by the Board at its meeting in February, 1908, and in accordance with the resolution of the Board at that time is herewith submitted to the Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,

DARWIN R. JAMES, *Chairman.*  
MERRILL E. GATES, *Secretary.*  
ALBERT K. SMILEY,  
E. WHITTLESEY,  
WILLIAM D. WALKER,  
JOSEPH T. JACOBS,  
PATRICK J. RYAN,  
ANDREW S. DRAPER,  
GEORGE VAUX, Jr.,  
MICHAEL E. BANNIN,

*United States Board of Indian Commissioners.*

To the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.





## APPENDIX A.

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### REPORT OF THE PURCHASING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 15, 1908.*

The purchasing committee of this board has the honor to make the following report of business during the year from January to December, 1907.

The change in administrative method by which all bids for Indian supplies have been opened and classified, not at the several Indian warehouses as was done for many years, but at the Indian office in Washington—a change which was made by the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs and has been in effect for over two years—seems to your committee to be in every way for the advantage of the service. As we have observed the working of this system for the last two years, it seems to us that the good effects which we anticipated when for several years we recommended this change are realized now that it is in operation.

Once more your purchasing committee respectfully renews the suggestion to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Indian Bureau that the reasons which have led to a change in the place of opening the bids, point to further advantages which would follow a change by which most of the work of examining samples and making awards should be done at a central warehouse at Washington. The samples, all of which by the terms of the government proposals must be submitted simultaneously with the bids, are still delivered at the respective Indian warehouses, as they used to be when the bids were opened at different warehouses instead of in Washington. Your committee believe that it would be for the advantage of the service if many of the lines of goods used in the Indian service, cloths and clothing, leading lines of dry goods, blankets, boots and shoes, etc., were further standardized in the several weights and qualities needed for the different seasons of the year and for the variety of climate at the northern and the southern reservations and schools; and if still more rigid inspection, both of samples and of the goods when delivered, were to insure even more fully than heretofore the *purchase and delivery of exactly the goods* most desirable for the use of the Indians. We are of the conviction that there has been needless insistence upon petty variety in some of the requisitions of schools and agents, and that through insistence upon fanciful requisitions here and there it has been made very difficult, if not impossible, for the department to insure the purchase and delivery of thoroughly excellent goods for the price, as can be done where fixed standards are advertised and insisted upon in specifications, samples, and deliveries, in the lines of goods where standard fabric, weight, form, and color are desirable and may properly be insisted upon.

Further observation confirms our belief that no interests of the Indians or of the Government would suffer if the number of Indian warehouses were reduced to *not more than two*.

In the matter of specifications and bids for clothing, piece goods, etc., your committee has noticed with gratification the marked improvement in style, manufacture, and general appearance which has followed the effort made last year to adapt the requirements in the specifications more exactly to the form and the needs of the school boys and the Indian men for whose use the clothing was assigned.

As another instance of the practical improvements which the present administration of Indian affairs is attempting to carry into effect, we note with pleasure the disappearance from the list of supplies to be purchased for the Indians of the "Kentucky jean clothing," which for some years has seemed to us to be poorly adapted to the use of the Indians and not desirable for the service.

On March 19, 1907, bids were opened at the office of the Indian Bureau in Washington for clothing. Commissioner Gates of this Board was in attendance and assisted at the opening. Fifteen bids were submitted.

On March 26 bids were opened at the Indian Bureau for blankets, shirts, notions, hats, and caps. Sixty-two bids were submitted. Commissioner Gates, of this Committee, was in attendance and assisted at the opening.

On Thursday, April 4, and Friday, April 5, 1907, at the Indian warehouse, in New York City, samples already examined and tested by experts were further examined by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and by Commissioner Gates, of this Board, and contracts were awarded for clothing, piece goods, hats, caps, etc.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, April 9 and 10, 1907, Commissioner Gates, of this Committee, was in attendance at the Indian warehouse in New York, assisting the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the examination of samples and the awarding of contracts for dry goods, blankets, shirts, notions, hats, and caps.

On April 11, 64 bids were received and opened at the office of the Indian Bureau at Washington for boots and shoes, hardware, medical supplies, etc. Commissioner Gates was in attendance and assisted at this opening.

On April 16, 94 bids were submitted and opened at the office of the Indian Bureau in Washington for enamel ware, lamps, furniture, bedding, stoves, agricultural implements, paints, oils, glass, tinware, wagons, harness, leather, school supplies, etc. The secretary of this Board was in attendance and assisted. The final examination of samples and the award of contracts at the United States Indian warehouse in St. Louis, Mo., by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with Commissioner Gates of this Board in attendance and assisting, took place on the 29th and the 30th of April and on the 1st of May.

For the five days, from May 2 to May 6, inclusive, Commissioner Gates was in attendance at the Indian warehouse at Chicago, assisting the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the examination of samples of goods submitted at the Chicago warehouse and in the awarding of contracts.

In the entire business of advertising for Indian supplies, and in inspecting samples and goods during the year 1907, it is the conviction of your committee, based upon their observation and upon correspondence and interviews with others who are in a position to observe intelligently the needs of the Indian service and the qualities of the supplies furnished, that the real needs of the Indian service are more nearly and intelligently met this year than ever before, both in the specifications and in the intelligent choice of goods best adapted to the needs of the Indian schools and of the men and women upon Indian reservations whose needs are still wholly or in part supplied by the Indian Bureau. The good effect of the experience, taste, and sound feminine judgment of those women, workers for the good of the Indians, who have for the last two years assisted in preparing specifications and in examining samples and goods, is clearly seen in the better adaptation to the needs of the Indian girls and women of all the purchases made by the bureau.

#### BUSINESS DONE AT THE UNITED STATES INDIAN WAREHOUSES.

Mr. Frank Sorenson, superintendent of the United States Indian warehouse at 265-267 South Canal street, Chicago, under date of January 23, 1908, makes the following report as to the shipments of goods handled and the services of inspectors at the Chicago warehouse during the calendar year from January 1 to December 31, 1907:

CHICAGO, ILL., *January 23, 1908.*

DEAR SIR: I am handing you herewith report showing shipments handled by the Chicago warehouse from January 1 to December 31, 1907; also report of the inspectors employed here during that period.

Very respectfully,

FRANK SORENSON,  
*Superintendent.*



*Shipments handled by Chicago warehouse since last report.*

FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 1907.

From—	Number of packages.	Gross weight pounds.	Amount.
Chicago, Ill.....	11,147	4,763,542	\$79,468.84
St. Paul, Minn.....	304	30,818	1,304.14
Kansas City, Mo.....	22	1,570	122.00
Minneapolis, Minn.....	50	5,758	152.25
St. Louis, Mo.....	19	5,226	223.99
Duluth, Minn.....	1	104	6.95
Detroit, Mich.....	1	100	30.00
Milwaukee, Wis.....	1	1,000	135.00
New York City, N. Y.....	1	1,020	475.00
LaCrosse, Wis.....	267	40,267	400.00
Lawrence, Kans.....	28	3,959	235.00
Bloomington, Ill.....	1	40	9.75
Hayward, Wis.....	8	2,880	320.00
Pawnee, Okla.....	8	6,252	474.50
Forwarded by mail.....	39	76	155.19
Total.....	11,897	4,862,612	83,512.61

FROM JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1907, INCLUSIVE.

Chicago, Ill.....	64,103	6,000,529	\$419,321.90
Duluth, Minn.....	527	9,226,010	20,594.27
St. Paul, Minn.....	1,562	261,885	11,231.65
Kansas City, Mo.....	971	88,362	3,817.01
St. Louis, Mo.....	2,751	215,950	8,407.57
Omaha, Nebr.....	797	65,046	3,318.91
Sioux City, Iowa.....	208	22,764	1,013.18
North Manchester, Ind.....	482	36,046	1,410.60
Ogema, Minn.....	511	50,078	1,195.00
Tomah, Wis.....	10	28,724	1,859.00
Pawnee, Okla.....	1	27,448	2,400.00
Seattle, Wash.....	8	3,604	659.50
Quincy, Ill.....	12	2,041	81.00
Helena, Mont.....	2	266	84.24
Forwarded by mail.....	399	845	560.82
Total.....	72,344	16,029,598	475,904.65
Total, January 1 to June 30.....	11,897	4,862,612	83,512.61
Total, July 1 to December 31.....	72,344	16,029,598	475,904.65
Total from January 1 to December 31, 1907.....	84,241	20,892,210	559,417.26

*Inspectors employed at the Chicago warehouse during calendar year of 1907.*

Name of inspector.	Articles inspected.	Days on duty.	Year of service.
Henry W. Dudley.....	Coffee, beans, sugar, rice, groceries, etc.....	32	Ninth.
Thomas Robertson.....	Tea.....	1	Do.
Prof. J. H. Long.....	Baking powder, soap, drugs, etc.....	36½	Do.
Wilhelm Bodeman.....	Medical supplies.....	17	Tenth.
R. H. Whittemore.....	Crockery, lamps, etc.....	11	Fifth.
Geo. E. Watson.....	Paints, oils, glass, etc.....	31	Ninth.
Milo B. Pincomb <sup>a</sup> .....	Classes 10, 12, 15, 16, and 17.....	83	First.
M. I. Zeigler <sup>b</sup> .....	Class 11, and leather belting.....	29	Third.
H. S. Shepherd.....	Lard.....	9	Eighth.
David Hewey <sup>c</sup> .....	Boots and shoes.....	12	Third.
Ephraim Hewitt.....	Flour.....	125	Fifth.
Jas. A. Eaton.....	Dry goods, notions, etc.....	32	First.
E. A. Ballard <sup>d</sup> .....	Tea.....	3	Do.
Sumner B. Taft <sup>e</sup> .....	Wagons, wagon wood, etc.....	104	Do.

<sup>a</sup> From Indian office, Washington.<sup>b</sup> From Carlisle Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.<sup>c</sup> From Leech Lake Agency, Minn.<sup>d</sup> Inspected tea during Mr. Thomas Robertson's absence abroad.<sup>e</sup> From Navajo Agency.

Supt. R. C. Jordan, of the United States Indian warehouse, 801 to 811 Jones street, Omaha, Nebr., under date of January 31, 1908, submits the following report of the business done at that warehouse during the year 1907:

OMAHA, NEBR., *January 31, 1908.*

DEAR SIR: In response to your letter of the 21st instant, I beg to submit herewith a report of the business handled by this warehouse during the calendar year 1907, viz:

Packages shipped from—		Freight shipped from—	
Omaha.....	14, 920	Omaha.....pounds..	1, 821, 272
Kansas City.....	2, 856	Kansas City.....do....	384, 972
Sioux City.....	36	Sioux City.....do....	2, 865
Packages mailed.....	142	Weight of packages mailed, pounds.....	479
Total.....	17, 954	Total.....	2, 209, 588

Name of inspector.	Articles inspected.	Year of service.
Wilhelm Bodeman.....	Medical supplies.....	Ninth.
R. C. Jordan <sup>a</sup> .....	Bacon, mess pork, lard, sugar, rice, lumber, hardware, mattresses, white lead, grain bags, hominy, chairs, rubber belting, corn meal, gasoline, lye, and glass.	Sixth.

<sup>a</sup> Service performed without additional cost to Government.

Very respectfully,

R. C. JORDAN, *Superintendent.*

Supt. William H. Blake, of the United States Indian warehouse, 602 South Seventh street, St. Louis, Mo., submits the following report of business done at that warehouse during the year 1907:

ST. LOUIS, MO., *January 28, 1908.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your request of the 21st instant, I have the honor to submit the following report, showing the amount of goods handled by this warehouse during the calendar year 1907; also number of bids received in April, contracts awarded, and list of inspectors employed:

Bids submitted in April.....	64
Contracts awarded.....	39
Open-market purchases made.....	339
Packages shipped by freight.....	Number.. 21, 765
Packages forwarded by mail.....	do .. 171
Weight of goods shipped by freight.....	pounds.. 2, 353, 980½
Weight of goods forwarded by mail.....	do.... 329

Name of inspector.	Articles inspected.	Days on duty.	Year of service.
Wm. Bodeman.....	Medical supplies.....	8	Sixth.
John H. Long.....	Medicals and soap.....	25	Do.
Jos. L. Smoot <sup>a</sup> .....	Hardware.....	15	First.
David Hewey <sup>b</sup> .....	Shoes.....	( <sup>b</sup> )	Third.

<sup>a</sup> From Haskell Institute, Kans., from August 5 to August 10, from September 18 to September 27.

<sup>b</sup> From Leech Lake Agency, Minn., from August 17 to October 10, inclusive (time divided between Chicago and St. Louis).

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM H. BLAKE, *Superintendent.*



E. F. Merwin, superintendent of the United States Indian warehouse, 119-121 Wooster street, New York, reports as follows:

NEW YORK, *February 13, 1908.*

DEAR SIR: I beg to submit the following statement showing the amount of goods handled by this warehouse during the calendar year 1907; also list of inspectors employed here during that time:

Bids submitted.....	54
Contracts awarded.....	38
Packages.....	18,850
Weight..... pounds..	2,389,415
Value.....	\$458,737.67

Name of inspector.	Articles inspected.	Days on duty.	Year of service.
E. Jelleme.....	Dry goods and notions.....	71	Third.
A. Sutorious.....	Hats and caps.....	23	Second.
T. Pliny Moran.....	Clothing (awards).....	13	First.
Wm. R. Roane.....	Boots and shoes.....	5	Do.

Inspection of other supplies made by the superintendent.

Very respectfully,

E. F. MERWIN, *Superintendent.*

Under date of February 11, 1908, Mr. William B. Collier, superintendent of the United States Indian warehouse at 310 Eighth street, San Francisco, Cal., reports that during the year ending December 31, 1907, there were purchased and shipped through the San Francisco warehouse to various agencies and schools, under contract of June 10, 1907, and October 9, 1907, 113 packages, weighing in all 2,348,909 pounds and valued at \$151,616.47.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM B. COLLIER, *Superintendent.*

All of which is respectfully submitted to the board, and through them to the Secretary of the Interior, as the report of your purchasing committee.

MERRILL E. GATES,  
*Pro tempore Chairman of Purchasing Committee.*

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS, WITH THEIR  
POST-OFFICE ADDRESSES.

DARWIN R. JAMES, chairman.....	384 Washington street, New York City.
MERRILL E. GATES, secretary.....	Room 320, Corcoran Building, Washington, D. C.
ALBERT K. SMILEY.....	Mohonk Lake, Ulster County, N. Y.
E. WHITTLESEY.....	8 Iowa circle, Washington, D. C.
WILLIAM D. WALKER.....	367 Elmwood avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.
JOSEPH T. JACOBS.....	1440 Twelfth street, Detroit, Mich.
PATRICK J. RYAN.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
ANDREW S. DRAPER.....	Office Commissioner of Education, Albany, N. Y.
GEORGE VAUX, jr.....	404 Girard Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
MICHAEL E. BANNIN.....	55 Montgomery place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

SECRETARIES OF MISSIONARY SOCIETIES ENGAGED IN EDUCATIONAL  
WORK AMONG THE INDIANS.

(American) Baptist Home Missionary Society: Rev. H. L. Morehouse, D. D., 312 Fourth avenue, New York City.

Baptist (Southern): Rev. B. D. Gray, D. D., 724 Austell Building, Atlanta, Ga.

Catholic (Roman) Bureau of Indian Missions: Rev. William H. Ketcham, 1326 New York avenue, Washington, D. C.

(Congregational) American Missionary Association: Rev. A. F. Beard, D. D., 287 Fourth avenue, New York City.

Episcopal Church Mission: Rev. A. S. Lloyd, D. D., 281 Fourth avenue, New York City.

Friends' Yearly Meeting: Joseph J. Janney, Eutaw and Madison streets, Baltimore, Md.

(Friends, Orthodox) Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs: E. M. Wistar, 704 Provident Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Methodist Missionary Society:

Methodist Episcopal Church (Southern): Rev. W. R. Lembuth, 810 Broadway, Nashville, Tenn.

Mennonite Mission: Rev. A. B. Shelly, Quakertown, Pa.

(Moravian Mission) The Society for Propagating the Gospel: Rev. Paul de Schweinitz, 20 Church street, Bethlehem, Pa.

Presbyterian Board Home Missions: Rev. Robert M. Craig, 156 Fifth avenue, New York City.

Presbyterian (Southern) General Assembly's Home Missions: Rev. S. L. Morris, Atlanta, Ga.



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